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ABSTRACT

Information is provided concerning California's newly enacted Early Childhood Education Program. The plan calls for restructuring the K-3 program to allow for: (1) lower adult-pupil ratios; (2) individualized, diagnostic instruction; (3) parent participation and involvement; (4) parent education; and (5) expanded inservice education to upgrade teacher preparation and train aides, volunteers, and parents to assist the teacher. A point-by-point analysis of the bill, a summary of the report of California's Task Force on Early Childhood Education, and actual and projected allocations for 1973-74 through 1980-81 are provided. (KM)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INFORMATION
(January 26, 1973)

Senate Bill 1302, the Early Childhood Education plan for California's kindergarten-primary children, became law on November 27, 1972.

The new program will serve approximately 12% of the K-3 children in 1973/74, and about 8% more in 1974/75, or roughly 20%, with \$25 million of additional state support in the first year, \$40 million the second.

This additional funding will facilitate a restructured K-3 program to make primary education more effective by means of 1) lower adult-pupil ratios, 2) individualized, diagnostic instruction, 3) parent participation and involvement, 4) parent education, and 5) expanded inservice education to upgrade teachers and train aides, volunteers, and parents to assist the teacher.

Although the law specifies priority for districts with pupils of greatest educational need, low assessed valuation per pupil and greatest property tax effort, all districts are eligible and are urged to apply. About half of the proposals approved in any one year are expected to be from the nondisadvantaged sector.

Policies for the implementation of the Early Childhood Education Program were adopted by the State Board of Education on January 12 and will be distributed immediately. They will be sent to all school districts and interested persons requesting them as soon as they are available.

Application forms, instructions, and program development materials are also in preparation. These are expected to be available in the early spring and will be distributed at regional training workshops now being planned for late February and early March. All districts will be notified as to dates and locations of these workshops.

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AN ANALYSIS OF SB 1302: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

E.C. 6445 Definition of Early Childhood Education All public school educational programs for children age 3 years and 9 months to the completion of grade 3, or its equivalent which are under a school-by-school master plan that has been approved by the State Board of Education

E.C. 6445 Early Childhood Education Goals

- To comprehensively restructure primary education in California to more fully meet the needs and abilities of individual children
- To make early educational programs available to children of age 3-9 on a basis which is coordinated with the statewide restructuring of primary education
- To evoke total community participation in all aspects of the Early Childhood Education program
- To be able to measure the effect which early education and restructuring primary education may have on later achievement in language, reading and mathematics
- To make efficient and effective use of all existing state and federal funds in the implementation of this program

E.C. 6445.01 Parent participation defined as the taking of an active part in planning, implementing, evaluating and modification of early childhood education programs.

(a) Parents shall have an active part in the formal education of their children directly in the classroom and in the decision-making process of the California public school system.

(b) Parents and Teachers shall have a continuous and permanent opportunity to cooperatively develop the learning process and the subject matter.

E.C. 6445.1 Legislative Intent To require the development by the State Board of Education of a comprehensive (educational) program for children ages 3 years 9 months to the completion of grade 3 or its equivalent to achieve the following objectives:

1. an individualized program for each child
2. the achievement of specified competence levels in language, reading and mathematics upon completion of grade 3
3. statewide coordination of program development
4. local development of master plans on a school-by-school basis
5. the achievement of maximum participation based on planned increases in the number of participating schools each succeeding year

E.C. 6445.2 Authorizes local school boards to develop and submit Early Childhood master plans for approval.

- Mandates community, parent and teacher involvement in all phases of master plan development.
- Mandates the development of application procedures by the State Board of Education.

E.C. 6445.3 Authorizes the joint development by governing boards of any school district of Master Plans for Early Childhood Education.

E.C. 6445.4 Requires the State Board of Education to develop standards and criteria for master plan evaluation to include:

- (a) Assessment of need.
- (b) A restructuring of kindergarten through third grade.
- (c) Educational programs for pupils three years and nine months of age including children's center, day care, preschool, and child care services.
- (d) Defined and measurable program objectives.
- (e) A phase-in program for all the schools of the district in no more than five years.
- (f) Coordination of all district resources with the objectives of the local plan.
- (g) Program of evaluation of pupils' health needs.
- (h) Emphasis on an individualized diagnostic approach to instruction.
- (i) Direct parental involvement in the classroom program and program evaluation.
- (j) Programs for comprehensive parent education.
- (k) Staff development and inservice training.
- (l) Transportation of pupils participating in the program.
- (m) Evaluation of the program by the governing board of the school district with the assistance of the administrators, teachers, and parents.

No plan shall be approved by the State Board which does not meet the following criteria:

1. Active cooperation of parents, community and teachers in all stages of plan development;
2. Inclusion of children 3 years 9 months in addition to the restructuring of kindergarten and grades 1 thru 3;
3. All plans for restructuring must be completed;
4. Each child must be individually diagnosed and prescribed for;
5. Initiation date for including children 3 years 9 months of age must not be prior to FY 75-76.

E.C. 6445.5 Apportionment of available funds to district with approved master plans shall be on a priority basis.

E.C. 6445.6 Highest priority in fund apportionment shall be given to:

1. Those districts which have the largest number of pupils determined to have educational need, and
2. Those districts with the lowest measure of assessed valuation per pupil and making the most significant property tax effort.

Educational need shall be determined by criteria identified by the State Board of Education.

E.C. 6445.7 Fifty (50) percent of the annual amount (of funds) allowed to a district shall be designated for schools with the largest number of pupils such as educational need.

E.C. 6445.8 The State Board of Education shall annually review the accomplishment of program objectives and shall adopt rules and regulations to terminate allowances to districts which are unsuccessful in meeting objectives of their approved plans.

E.C. 6445.9 By the 1975-76 school year, the State Board of Education shall adopt pupil performance objectives for reading and mathematics to be used in the Early Childhood Education Programs.

E.C. 6445.10 The State Board of Education shall prescribe criteria for at least annual mandatory evaluation reports by districts with approved master plans.

E.C. 6445.11 By the fifth legislative day of each regular legislative session the Department of Education shall annually report to the Legislature and the participating districts its analysis of factors which are predictive of school success.

E.C. 6445.12 Funds for districts with approved master plans shall be allowed as follows:

- (a) \$500. per average daily attendance in each class of age 3-9 (not before 1975-76)
- (b) \$130. per average daily attendance in each kindergarten class
- (c) \$130. per average daily attendance in grades 1-3 inclusive

E.C. 6445.13 Additional grants as follows may be provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction on his determination of need pursuant to E.C. 6445.6:

- (a) \$100. per average daily attendance for children 3-9 in age
- (b) \$ 65. per average daily attendance for each kindergarten class
- (c) \$ 65. per average daily attendance for each class in grades 1-3 inclusive

E.C. 6445.14 Computation of allowances authorized in E.C. 6445.12 shall be controlled by factors cited in Article 5 (commencing with Section 5789) of Division 6.

E.C. 6445.15 Allowances for this chapter shall be specially appropriated by the Legislature.

E.C. 6445.16 The Department of Education shall continuously monitor and review to assure that all funds appropriated to school districts under this chapter are expended for the purposes intended.

E.C. 6445.17 The district must maintain its fiscal effort for Early Childhood Education at the preceding year level or shall not be granted allowances.

E.C. 6445.18 The district must maintain its fiscal effort at least equal to that for the elementary child not participating in the program or shall not be granted allowances.

E.C. 6445.19 The State Board of Education shall have the power to adopt and promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to the effective administration of this chapter.

E.C. 6445.20 Waiver of all or part of the Code provisions may be made if the Superintendent of Public Instruction concurs.

E.C. 6445.21 A school district in its application for approval of a master plan for early childhood education may include how children's center services, as provided for in Section 16603, are to be coordinated with the program.

E.C. 6446 No eligible child whose parents present him for enrollment can be denied opportunity in the Early Childhood Education program.

E.C. 6446.1 (a) A child may be admitted to a class established pursuant to Section 6446 during the first school month of the term if he is of the age prescribed. For good cause the governing board of a school district may permit a child of the proper age to be admitted to the class after the first school month of the school year.

The child shall be three years and nine months of age on or before September 1 of the current school year.

(b) As an alternative to admitting all children 3 years and 9 months of age on or before September 1 at the beginning of each school year pursuant to subdivision (a), school districts may, as a part of their respective master plans approved under Section 6445.4, authorize the admission of all children on an individual basis at the time that each respective child reaches 4 years of age.

(c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the approval of state aid based upon late enrollment in any school year. For the purpose of this section, late enrollment shall be considered any enrollment after the first month of the school year.

E.C. 6446.2 The State Board of Education shall establish minimum standards authorizing service of instructional personnel in classes established pursuant to Section 6446.

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E.C. 6446.3 The minimum schoolday for classes established pursuant to Section 6446 is 180 minutes inclusive of recesses.

E.C. 6446.4 The computation of average daily attendance in classes established pursuant to Section 6446 for the purpose of determining allowances under Sections 6445.12 and 6445.13, shall be as prescribed in Section 11301. Sections 10951 to 10955, inclusive, and Sections 11001, 11002, 11007 and 11301.6 shall apply.

E.C. 6446.5 Contractual agreements for education between the Departments of Social Welfare and Education may be drawn.

E.C. 6446.6 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to sanction, perpetuate, or promote the racial and ethnic segregation of pupils in public schools.

E.C. 16601.5 Priorities for use of children's center facilities must meet the conditions of 16603.1.

Guidelines for allocating compensatory education, children's center, group child care and early childhood education programs will be developed by the Department of Education.

E.C. 16602.5 Applications for early childhood education master plan approval shall include children's center services.

E.C. 16602.6 Elementary school is defined.

E.C. 16711 A special definition of elementary school is included with regard to Loans to Students in Institutions of Higher Learning.

E.C. 16820 Beginning FY 1975-76 transportation may be provided for enrolled pupils who are 3-9, and under certain conditions, the parents of those children.

E.C. 16150 Equal educational opportunity and maximum feasible parental participation are given as the Legislative intent for this chapter (Chapter 2.5).

E.C. 16151.5 The Department of Social Welfare is required to enter into a contract with the State Department of Education to provide a statewide system of social services for families under the Early Childhood Education Program.

E.C. 16153.5 The Department of Social Welfare shall not provide any per capita reimbursement for programs which do not meet prescribed standards.

The function of the Department of Social Welfare is prescribed.

Section 10 The funding schedule is prescribed as: (a) To the State School Fund for 6445.12 and 6445.13.

(1) FY 1973-74 \$25 Million

(2) FY 1974-75 \$40 Million

(b) To the Department of Education: \$250,000.

Section 11 Department of Education report to Legislature.

- (1) The degree of program implementation.
- (2) The successes of districts participating in the program.
- (3) Evidence supported by research and documentation that classes proposed to be provided for children 3 years and 9 months of age will be of educational benefit to children of such age.
- (4) The number of districts approved by the State Board of Education.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MASTER PLAN:
A NEW BEGINNING FOR CALIFORNIA'S CHILDREN

SB 1302 (Dymally et al)

"The people of the State of California, through their elected representatives, must make a long-range commitment to the proposition that the first eight years of life are the most important period in determining the future success of all of our citizens."

This is the recommendation of the Task Force on Early Childhood Education. From the Report of the Task Force comes a bold new plan to redesign primary education in California.

What does this plan do...

for children?

aims to give all children, by the end of the third grade, sufficient command of the basic skills in reading, language, and arithmetic so they can succeed in their future schooling and in life

offers five-to-eight-year olds an individualized program

helps children make continuous progress at their own rate

provides more adults (parents, aides, volunteers, older students, grandparents, etc.) in the classroom to help the teacher insure that each child gets personal help when he needs it

organizes the learning experience to meet each child's needs so he can know success

provides help when it is needed, not in a later grade when it is more costly and less effective

inspires greater interest and motivation through appropriate experiences and materials

insures positive feelings and attitudes of self-worth, self-confidence, and self-control

includes, for those who qualify, whatever extended day care, health, social, nutrition, or other services needed if not otherwise available

for families?

strengthens the family by closer home-school ties

offers parent education classes on needed topics

gives parents a voice in planning and evaluating the work and progress of their own children

provides opportunity for parents to help in the classroom, paid or volunteer

includes parents on advisory, planning, and evaluation committees in a real partnership with the school

for school districts?

gives school districts the freedom and flexibility to create programs specifically designed to meet local needs and utilize local resources

provides additional funds for an approvable program for five-to-eight-year olds

rewards success by funding more schools on a phase-in basis when the goals and objectives of the approved local Master Plan are being met

creates a design for local master planning for four-to-eight-year-olds, within State Board guidelines, which will incorporate:

- school-by-school needs assessment
- locally defined goals and objectives
- individualization of instruction
- staff development
- parent participation and education
- community involvement
- auxiliary services
- evaluation of the program
- coordination and continuity of resources
- initiation of program

makes Early Childhood Education a top priority of the State Department of Education, to meet district needs for information and assistance.

for communities?

creates a real home-school-community partnership

provides coordination of all community services and resources, public and private, with the school: health, welfare, civic, cultural, commercial

offers worthwhile experience with small children for students in:

- elementary and secondary schools
- community colleges
- teacher preparation institutions

coordinates community, state, and federal agency efforts for young children

involves the community in assessing the total Early Childhood Education effort.

SB-1302
ACTUAL AND PROJECTED ALLOCATIONS

\$ IN \$1,000

<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>	<u>K-3 STUDENTS SERVED</u>	<u>1,368,931 % OF POPULA.</u>	<u>STUDENTS SCHOOLS SERVED</u>	<u>ANNUAL COST</u>	<u>ANNUAL INCREASE</u>
1973/74	156,058	11.4	513	\$ 25,000	\$ -0-
1974/75	248,684	18.3	824	40,000	15,000
1975/76 <u>/1</u>	547,572	40	1,818	87,600	47,600
1976/77 <u>/1</u>	821,359	60	2,700	131,400	43,800
1977/78 <u>/1</u>	1,095,145	80	3,600	175,200	43,800
1978/79 <u>/1</u>	1,368,931	100	4,500	219,000	43,800
1979/80 <u>/1</u>	1,368,931	100	4,500	219,000	-0-
1980/81 <u>/1</u>	1,368,931	100	4,500	219,000	-0-

/1 EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS WILL FUND K-3 PROGRAM ONLY THROUGH 1974/75 FISCAL YEAR. ADDITIONAL FUNDS WILL BE REQUIRED BY LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS BEGINNING WITH THE 1975/76 FISCAL YEAR THROUGH THE 1980/81 FISCAL YEAR.